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SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

FOR EB/TFG

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: EAID ECON CE

SUBJECT: TSUNAMI RECONSTRUCTION SIGNATURE PROJECT

PROPOSALS

REF: SECSTATE 25167

¶1. (SBU) Per request reftel, USAID has - since early January - held extended meetings and has been in frequent contact with various line entities of the GSL including the Chairman of the Rural Development Authority, senior staff of the Ministry of Fisheries and the CEO of the Vocational Training Authority. Together with the Embassy ECON Officer, USAID recently met with the Roads & Bridges Coordinator of TAFREN (the Task Force for Rebuilding the Nation) Mr. Ken Balendra, to obtain the view of the national level coordinating body.

¶2. (SBU) As each organization has labored to compile and submit their institutional post-tsunami assessments, several issues are manifest: the need for assistance, particularly if based on cost estimates, even within an organization, varies significantly; despite the rhetoric, donors have made few if any ironclad commitments and as result, the GSL has remained receptive to all comers, and that there's little in the way of strategic planning evident, particularly any linking the proposed response to potential impact on economic growth. The Mission's approach involved giving more consideration be given to those critical, mutually reinforcing groupings of related, sequential and complementary interventions that hold the promise of development multiplier effect: for example, improved all weather access, that includes restoring damaged bridges, and GIS-based spatial planning to encourage and direct private sector investment in coastal hotels once a sustainable and environmentally sound wat/san system is in place.

¶3. (SBU) The Arugam Bay Bridge & Area Development activity that the USAID Mission has identified as its priority one activity is a case in point. The restoration of the vocational school system (some 14 were wiped out) is another opportunity to make a lasting contribution not only to the erection of a number of structures but to influence positively the formation of Sri Lanka's youth and the economic contribution of its future work force. These two examples serve to illustrate the post's emerging strategy for sustainable recovery. That end, the Mission will - given the resource constraints - continue the process it has undertaken of screening opportunities for engaging in infrastructure reconstruction for optimizing the economic development multiplier effect.

¶5. (SBU) At present, and as a result of interagency collaboration that included participation of civil engineers from the recently departed U.S. Marine detachment, post is recommending the following projects by priority:

- Arugam Bay Bridge & Area Development - \$10.725 million  
Priority: 1st  
Type: Integrated Coastal Zone Infrastructure  
Development Components: Bridge Structure (\$5.50 million)  
Abutments, supports and approaches (\$ 1.75 million)  
All-weather coastal bypass access  
Road (\$825 thousand)  
Water / sanitation planning & Installation for Pottuvil, Raddella, Wedagama, and Panama Area communities (\$1.90 million)  
Regional & urban development capacity strengthening (\$750 thousand)  
Implementation Modalities:  
Authorization: IAA 632(a) w/ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or existing IQC task order modification under a new SOAG  
Design: ST-TA from the Corps of Eng. or alternately from Louis Berger, Inc. under the Agency's SCOTIA IQC for CZ resources Mgt.

Execution: U.S. Contractor, labor, materials and equipment of local and foreign source & origin  
Period: Two -three years  
Matching / Leveraging Prospects: International & U.S. private sources - unknown, but will explore in GDA's "e-bay"-type facility particularly with diaspora. Other bilateral donors-unknown.  
Multilateral donors - unknown.

-- Vo-Ed Schools ( 14 ) Reconstruction & Rehabilitation ( \$20.720 million )  
Priority: 2nd  
Type: Institution Building / Work force Development / Human Capacity Building Components: School & classroom reconstruction (\$750 thousand) x 14 = \$10.5 million  
Grounds, plant and perimeter rehabilitation (\$50 thousand) x 14 = \$700 thousand  
Physical education facilities (\$5 thousand) x 14 = \$70 thousand  
Replacement tools, supplies & equipment (\$5.50 million) total  
Teaching materials, references & texts (\$25 thousand) x 14 = \$350 thousand  
LT-TA in curriculum & instruction, skills certification (\$325 thousand / yr.) x 5 years x two advisors = \$3.25 million English language labs (\$25 thousand x 14 = \$350 thousand  
Implementation Modalities:  
Authorization: Amendment of Work force Development component of existing SOAG on competitiveness;  
Design: ST-TA the Corps of Engineers  
Execution: U.S. Contractor, labor, materials and equipment of local and foreign source & origin  
Procurement: RCO/New Delhi through a Procurement Services Agent Technical Assistance: U.S. source & origin and / or Peace Corps  
Period: One year - 18 months on physical construction, one year on procurement, up to five years of LT-TA  
Matching / Leveraging Prospects: International & U.S. private sources - probable and will explore with GDA assistance. Other bilateral donors - unknown. Multilateral donors - unknown

-- Mutur Region All-Weather Bridge & Road Access ( \$ 3.25 million )  
Priority: 3rd  
Type: Coastal Infrastructure  
Components: Bridge providing all-weather access to Mutur Implementation: Authority: New SOAG Design: ST-TA the Corps of Engineers or alternately from Louis Berger, Inc. under a mod. To the Mission's existing task order under the SCOTIA IOC for CZ Resources Mgt.  
Execution: U.S. Contractor, labor, materials and equipment of local and foreign source & origin  
Period: Two years Matching / Leveraging Prospects: International & U.S. private sources - unknown, but will explore in GDA's "e-bay" facility particularly among diaspora. Other bilateral donors - unknown.  
Multilateral donors - unknown

--Hikkaduwa Harbor & Fisheries Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Area Development ( \$ 6.25 million)  
Priority: 4th  
Type: Coastal Infrastructure & Marine Resources Mgt Components: Harbor planning break water jetty, moorage, boat dock, ice plant, fish storage & equipment, boat & motor repair facilities, refrigerated trucks, supplies & materials Water & Sanitation planning and installation  
Implementation: Authority: Amendment adding a 9th cluster (fisheries & marine resources) to competitiveness  
SOAG or a new SOAG  
Design: Technical Assistance from the U.S. army Corps of Engineers Or alternately from Louis Berger, Inc. as a modification to the Mission's existing task order under the SCOTIA IOC for CZ Resources Mgt.  
Execution: U.S. Contractor, labor, materials and equipment of local and foreign source & origin.  
Period: One to two years  
Matching / Leveraging Prospects: International & U.S. private sources - unknown, but will explore in GDA's "e-bay" facility. Other bilateral donors - unknown.  
Multilateral donors - unknown

-- Mirissa & Puranawell Dondra Fisheries Infrastructure & Harbor Restoration ( \$6.25 million ) - near Matara  
Priority: 5th  
Type: Coastal Infrastructure & Marine Resources

Management

Components: Harbor planning break water jetty, moorage, boat dock, ice plant fish storage & equipment, boat & motor repair facilities, refrigerated trucks, supplies & materials  
Implementation: Authority: Amendment adding a 9th cluster (fisheries & marine resources) to competitiveness SOAG or a new SOAG

Design: Technical Assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or alternately from Louis Berger, Inc. as a modification to the Mission's existing task order under the SCOTIA IOC for coastal zone resources management.

Execution: U.S. Contractor, labor, materials, and equipment of local and foreign source & origin.

Period: One to two years

Matching / Leveraging Prospects: International & U.S. private sources - unknown, but will explore in GDA's "e-bay" facility. Other bilateral donors - unknown.

Multilateral donors - unknown.

-- Kod - Bay Fisheries Infrastructure & Harbor Restoration (\$ 4.00 million ) - near Trincomalee

Priority: 6th

Type: Coastal Infrastructure & Marine Resources Management

Components: Harbor planning break water jetty, moorage, boat dock, ice plant, fish storage & equipment, boat & motor repair facilities, refrigerated trucks, supplies and materials.

Implementation: Authority: Amendment adding a 9th cluster (fisheries & marine resources to competitiveness

SOAG or a new SOAG

Design: echnical Assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or alternately from Louis Berger, Inc. as a modification to the Mission's existing task order under the SCOTIA IOC for coastal zone resources management.

Execution: U.S. Contractor, labor, materials and equipment of local and foreign source & origin.

Period: One to two years

Matching / Leveraging Prospects: International & U.S. private sources - unknown, but will explore in GDA's "e-bay" facility. Other bilateral donors - unknown. Multilateral donors - unknown.

¶5. (SBU) Post remains guardedly optimistic that these opportunities remain open to USG support and that it would be very welcomed. However, donors are lining up and firm funding commitments will soon follow expressions of interest. Time is of the essence if the USG is to retain a presence of any magnitude in Sri Lanka post disaster recovery.

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